

## Message Text

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11

ACTION EA-14

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L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

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R 020815Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9001

INFO AMCONSUL MEDAN

AMCONSUL SURABAYA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, ID

SUBJECT: GENERAL SUMITRO ON ROLE OF KOPKAMTIB

SUMMARY: ON ANNIVERSARY OF 1965 COUP ATTEMPT, GENERAL SUMITRO SPELLED OUT CURRENT ROLE OF KOPKAMTIB, EMPHASIZING CONTINUANCE OF BATTLE AGAINST PKI AND "OTHER EXTREMISTS," AND KOPKAMTIB'S EXPANDING ROLE AS GUARDIAN OF INDONESIAN YOUTH AND CULTURE. END SUMMARY

1. GENERAL SUMITRO (DEPUTY COMMANDER OF ARMED FORCES) GAVE INTERVIEW ON STATE TELEVISION OCTOBER 1 ON POLITICAL SITUATION GENERALLY AND ROLE OF KOPKAMTIB (DEFENSE SECURITY ARM WHICH HE HEADS) IN PARTICULAR. SPEECH WAS ON EVENING OF "PANCASILA SANCTITY DAY." EARLIER, AS USUAL, PRESIDENT SUHARTO LED GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND DIPLOMATIC CORPS IN COMMEMORATION AT SITE WHERE GENERALS WERE KILLED BY PKI EIGHT YEARS AGO. VIRTUALLY EVERYTHING SUMITRO SAID HAS BEEN SAID BEFORE BUT ALL OF IT REMAINS BASIC TO CURRENT GOI OPERATIONAL PHILOSOPHY AND AS USUAL IT WAS DELIVERED WITH VERVE AND CONSIDERABLE WIT. FOLLOWING ARE SOME MAIN POINTS AS REPORTED BY PRESS:

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2. REDENT DEMONSTRATIONS IN PARLIAMENT. SHAMEFUL  
SEPT 27 DEMONSTRATION IN PARLIAMENT AGAINST MARRIAGE  
BILL DESTROYED ATMOSPHERE OF FREE DEBATE NURTURED BY  
GOVERNMENT, IN WHICH DIFFERING OPINIONS WERE BEING PUT  
FORWARD WITHOUT FEAR. THOSE WHO STAGED THE DEMONSTRATION  
WERE IGNORANT CHILDREN. WE ARE STILL LOOKING FOR THE  
ONES BEHIND THEM. PERHAPS THEY THOUGHT THAT BECAUSE  
IT WAS THE FASTING MONTH WE WOULD BE LAX. WE WON'T  
HESITATE TO TAKE WHATEVER STEPS ARE NECESSARY, FASTING  
MONTH OR NOT.

3. ROLE OF KOPKAMTIB. THE MAIN JOB OF KOPKAMTIB IS  
TO TAKE ACTION AGAINST COMMUNISTS AND "OTHER EXTREMISTS."  
WHEN THIS TASK IS FINISHED, OR WHEN OTHERS CAN TAKE  
OVER REMAINING DUTIES, KOPKAMTIB AS AN "EXTRA STRUCTURAL"  
ORGANIZATION WON'T BE NEEDED ANY LONGER. IT ISN'T  
ETERNAL. BUT DON'T TRY TO MAKE TROUBLE BY TALKING ABOUT  
DISSOLVING KOPKAMTIB\*

4. KOPKAMTIB AS GUARDIAN OF YOUTH AND MORALS. KOPKAMTIB  
MUST SAFEGUARD THE YOUNGER GENERATION. WE ARE FOCUSING  
ATTENTION ON THE FIGHT AGAINST NARCOTICS, LONG HAIR,  
AND (IMPROPER) FILMS. LONG HAIR STIMULATES A HEEDLESS  
ATTITUDE ON THE PART OF WELL-TO-DO YOUTH WHO  
SHOULD BE THE LEADERS OF THE FUTURE. THEY LEAVE  
EVERYTHING TO THEIR PARENTS. IT IS ALRIGHT FOR  
EUROPEAN YOUTH TO TO ADOPT FASHIONABLE AND  
EXPENSIVE LIFESTYLES BUT HERE WE MUST REMEMBER THE  
POOR PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN VILLAGES. NAUGHTINESS IS A  
SYMPTOM OF GROWING UP, BUT IT MUST BE KEPT WITHIN LIMITS.

5. ROLE OF THE ARMED FORCES. THE ARMED FORCES (ABRI)  
DOESN'T WANT TO BE A DICTATOR. AS BAD AS SOLDIERS  
MAY BE, THOSE WHO ARE STEEPED IN PANCASILA AND DEMOCRACY  
EVERY DAY WOULD BE DISGUSTED BY A DICTATOR. PAK HARTO  
(THE PRESIDENT) IS A GOOD EXAMPLE. FOR A LONG TIME HE  
WANTED THE POLITICAL PARTIES TO SIMPLIFY THEMSELVES.  
BUT HE DIDN'T SAY "DISSOLVE THIS ONE" AND "DISSOLVE  
THAT ONE" AS IN THE OLD DAYS. HE PATIENTLY SOUGHT THE  
VIEWS OF THE PARTIES BEFORE HE TOOK STEPS LEADING TO  
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THE PRESENT TWO PLUS GOLKAR. WE MUST SUPPORT THE GROWTH  
OF PROFESSIONALISM AND DEPOLITICIZATION IN LABOR, MEDICINE,  
AGRICULTURE AND ALL THE OTHER FIELDS WHICH WERE  
POLITICIZED IN THE OLD DAYS. LAW MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO  
BE A TOOL OF POLITICS.

6. COMMENT: BY "OTHER EXTREMISTS" SUMITRO OF COURSE  
MEANS ACTIVIST MOSLEMS. KOPKAMTIB'S ROLE AS GUARDIAN

OF YOUTH AND CULTURE DATES BACK AT LEAST TO 1971  
BUT HAS INTENSIFIED LATELY.  
GALBRAITH

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